

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 7-8, and 13-20 are rejected. Claims 5-6 and 9-11 are objected to, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 17 to recite the subject matter of allowable Claim 11. Specifically, those claims recite that a plurality of curvature limiting devices includes a plurality of curvature limiting bands that are coupled between the actuator band and the framework for limiting the curvature that the actuator band imposes on the indented portion of the heart wall. Applicant submits that all of the claims are currently in an allowable form. Claim 11 is cancelled.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is found that the present amendment does not place the application in a condition for allowance, Applicant's undersigned attorney requests that the examiner initiate a telephone interview to expedite prosecution of the application.

Applicant is submitting the fee due for the two-month extension of time with this response. If any additional fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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Document #367786